



## Lesson 52: Gideon's 300

### *Scriptural Basis:*



Judges 7

### *Overview:*

After God uses Gideon, to tear down the altar of Baal, he then leads him into a battle that could only be won by God. First, he winnows Gideon's army down from 32,000 men to a mere 300. Then He sends them into battle with trumpets and torches instead of swords! Though God rescues the Israelites from their enemies, the problem of sinful, rebellious hearts continues, even in Gideon and his family.

### *Things to consider:*

Both Moses and Joshua warned the Israelites that they would fail in their efforts to serve God faithfully. During this period of Israel's history, God establishes Himself as the only reliable King.

### *The gospel in the story:*



In this story, Gideon and the entire Israelite nation are the recipients of God's saving grace. Their predicament of being threatened by their enemies was of their own doing, having worshiped false gods. Yet God, in His faithfulness chose to have mercy and compassion on His chosen nation and deliver them from the Midianites. Though that did not fix the deeper problem of rebellious hearts marred by sin, God still had a larger plan that would bless the entire world of a gracious king and savior, Jesus who would once and for all, defeat Satan, sin and death.

### *Bible Study for Preparation:*



Read Judges 6-9. Consider the many ways the nation of Israel needed to depend on God alone for their salvation:

- ⤴ Israel is oppressed due to their sin
- ⤴ They are unable to save themselves
- ⤴ God has mercy on them when they call out to Him
- ⤴ God ensures that the victory will be attributed to Him
- ⤴ Gideon's weakness is evidenced throughout the story:
  - He tests God twice with the fleece
  - He needs reassurance, which God provides through the enemy's dream
  - He turns the battle into a personal vendetta against the Midian kings
  - He names his son Abimelech, which means "my father is king"

## *Teaching the lesson:*

A: Review – Last week – Gideon tears down the altar of Baal

B: Bible verse memory activity

C. Story

D. Additional activity